

B. Letter from Dr Gonda, the Head of Electron Microscopy at the NIH, to Popovic, copied to Gallo. He reports that the images wanted for the *Science* papers, do not contain HIV (HTLVIII) as Gallo had claimed, but only cellular rubbish. This was received only 3 days before Gallo sent in the *Science* papers for publication. When the papers appeared in print, they still contained photos credited to Gonda, with Gallo saying they contain HIV.

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March 26, 1984

Dr. Miki Popovic  
Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology  
NIH  
Building 37, Room 6B22  
Bethesda, MD 20205

Dear Miki:

I am sending you 4 extra copies of results requested by Betsy Read. She said Dr. Gallo wanted these micrographs for publication because they contained HTLV particles. If this assumption is based on the cultures being antigen positive, I would like to point out that the "particles" in micrograph 0905 are in debris of a degenerated cell. No other extracellular "virus-like particles" were observed free between cells anywhere in the pellet. The small extracellular vesicles in 0904 are at least 50% smaller than HTLV mature particles seen in type I, II, or III. Again, these vesicles can be found in any cell pellet. I do not believe any of the particles photographed are HTLV I, II, or III.

Best regards,

*Matt*

Matthew A. Gonda, Ph.D.  
Head, Electron Microscopy Laboratory

MAD:jan

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Gallo  
Betsy Read



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